THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

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WASHINGTON.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1851.

The Birth of a New Year has ever been deem ed a season of joyful congratulation, save by some of those ascetic philosophers who consider added years but as on thany added griefs and burdens to a toad already insupportable. We profess no allegiance to a school so melancholy; and, though our bundle of years be confessedly somewhat onerous, we take leave to congratulate our readers and ourselves on the prospect, should life be spared, of adding one more to the number. To them may it bring whatever they most desire when their desires are the purest: to ourselves useful labor, contentment, and the happy reflection of having conducted a public journal in such a manner as to give our readers no cause to blush for that liberal patronage by which they have so long sustained it. The last is the fiftieth year since this paper was founded; a respectable longevity, certainly, for a political paper amid the storms of a free Republic, and under an unflinching maintenance of an unchanged and uncompromising political creed. We behold, indeed, wrecks on every hand; and find ourselves much in the position of one who stands in the midst of a cemetery, with the names of many a friend and many an early acquaintance written on the tombs around. That the INTELLIGENCER yet survives-that it has seen one venerated proprietor gathered to his fathers, and has passed, unimpaired, into the possession of his successors, we attribute not to any special amount of talent in the conducting of it, certainly not to its unscrupulous allegiance to any political party, but simply to a uniform adherence to decency and to truth, and a candid admission of excellence, whether found in friend or foe. Many a trying tempest has whistled through its branches, and threatened, at times, to shake its roots; but, through the benignity of a protecting

ling events as were ever crowded into the same space of time. The retrospect seems like some strange tumultuous dream, in which the scenes change with a rapidity and are filled with a succession of wonders unlike the sober realities of waking existence. Almost the entire first French Revolution, (as well as the second and the momentous third,) with the convulsions to which it gave rise in almost every kingdom of the civilized world, has fallen within this stirring period, in which Napoleon shoots athwart the sky, drawing after him tail that fills the heavens, from the frozen sea to the pillars of Hercules. While, in our own hemisphere, the great political epoch of Mr. Jefferson's accession to the Presidency, the rise of the Jackson dynasty, the occurrence of two victorious wars, the disastrous deaths of two Chief Magistrates; the doubling of our territory; the more than doubling of our commerce, income, and population; and last, though scarce least, the rising from hell of the spirit of disunion, combine to mark the era as one of intensest interest to every friend of rational freedom, and the success of a temperate, regulated, and law-abiding Constitutional Republicanism.

Nor has the progress of science and discovery, in investigating the surface and the structure of our planet, enlarging the bounds of the solar system, annihilating space and time, and diminishing by more than half the burdens of human labor; above all, by applying the whole resources of advancing knowledge to augment the comfort, facilitate the tasks, and adorn the leisure of domestic life, been a whit less remarkable than the revolutions of empires and the struggles and the march of power. While last, and highest in the scale, the progress of education, the multiplication of schools, the immitigation of semi-barbarous society; the extensive translation and distribution of the Sacred Scriptures, and the progressive triumphs of its pure and

On the completion of such a period we may with just reason congratulate every reader. If such be the beginnings of the century, what may we not look for in its close? If such be the dawn, what will not be its meridian splendor? The prospect might almost make us wish to survive, that we might view the swelling scene. May we not congratulate our infant children that they have fallen on such an epoch for the commencement of their career? May they prove worthy of their age, live so as to illustrate it, and yield their latest breath amidst the brightness of its risen day!

Late advices from Nicaragua announce a declaration of war between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. So says a Telegraph despatch from New York.

The Hon. N. F. Dixon, one of the Representa tives in Congress from the State of Rhode Island. has positively declined being a candidate for re-election. In publishing his letter to that effect, the Providence Journal accompanies it with expressions of regret, which it says will be shared not only by Mr. Dixon's immediate constituents but by the Whigs throughout the State.

CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1850.

Mr. DOUGLAS. I have received a letter from John Win Lancaster, Pennsylvania, enclosing a memorial of an intesting character, which I have been requested to present december its reference to the proper committee. I am n he will report to the British Government. He expresses entire confidence in his ability to do this with perfect safety; and, it has to be provided for; and the means, according to our in furthermore, that he can make a quicker voyage around the world with his balloon than in any other way; that his exence, and its applicability to the purposes to which he pro-poses to devote it. He alludes to the fact that we are making "The law's recently enacted giving land very large appropriations for objects of much less utility; and, inasmuch as he has devoted his life to this business, has made so many successful voyages, has written a book demonstrating the practicability of this science, and only needs this small pittance to carry his scientific discoveries into practical effect, he says we ought to give him that amount to allow him to make the trial, and enable him to be the first man that ever ailed around the world in a balloon.

I present his memorial as he requests. I am assured that he is a man of great intelligence and scientific attainments. I have not the honor of knowing him, but these are the repknow to be men that are entirely capable of judging of his qualifications in this respect. I hardly know to which comloes not come fairly within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Territories. The chairman of the Committee on Public Lands insists that it is not within the jurisdiction of his comproject to one referred to the Committee on Roads and Ca. nals—Mr. Whitney's railroad—it ought to go to that committee, that its objects may be considered. I have read this petition with much interest. It is written with a good deal of ability. I have looked into his book, though I have not

the jurisdiction of the Committee on Roads and Canals. It is proper for me to say that I do not favor visionary projects of this kind. I think it is the province of our committee to ook to roads and canals on terra firma; but when it comes o navigating the air, the prayer does not find a friend in me think the Committee on Foreign Relations, if I may be permitted to suggest, would be more appropriate, [laughter,] for the duties of the committee lead them to the consideration of the affairs of foreign climes. I hope the gentleman will Mr. DOUGLAS. I do not know any impropriety in the

ference, and I will therefore move that it be ommittee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. MANGUM. Mr. President, as the chairman of that

hat we are very little learned in matters of this kind; but as believe the honorable Senator from Illinois has recently

The PRESIDENT. The Senator was excused from ser rice on that committee at his own request.

Mr. MANGUM. Then I protest against its going to that committee; but as the honorable Senator from Illinois has ndicated a high degree of scientific attainment in these mat-

ers, to the edification and amusement of the Senate, I think t should go to a select committee, and that he should be Mr. DOUGLAS. I think this subject should be treated eriously. The memorialist is undoubtedly a gentleman of high character and of scientific attainment; and I hope his aemorial will go to one of the regular committees. It was ransmitted to me by a naval gentleman, who suggested that

nove that it be referred to that committee. The motion was agreed to.

RAILROAD TO THE PACIFIC.

Mr. GWIN. Mr. President, I hold in my hand resolu-tions passed by the Legislature of California, in relation to the national railroad from the Pacific ocean to the Mississippi iver, which I propose, in accordance with instructions, to pre ent to the Senate

It may be proper for me to explain the cause of the delay in presenting these resolutions. The Legislature of Cali-fornia passed but two sets of resolutions, with instructions to her Senators to present them to the Senate; these I hold in my hand, and those presented by me at the last session in reation to donations of the public lands to officers who served n the Mexican war. My colleague was to have presente the resolutions I now have, but I presume, from the great press of business that accumulated on us after we took our seats in provements of the press, the diffusion of books, the civilization of savage and the enlightenment and I would have left to my colleague but for his unavoidable detention from his seat.

I move the reference of these resolutions to the Committee on Roads and Canals. It will be perceived that the Legislature of California, as a preliminary to any action by Congress, humanizing truth, conspire to render the first half of the present century as pre-eminently the era of light and the dawn of a brighter day.

ture of California, as a preliminary to any action by Congress, recommend "the organization of an efficient engineer corps to make complete surveys and explorations of the several routes which have been recommended to public notice as preliminary to any action by Congress, recommend the organization of an efficient engineer corps to make complete surveys and explorations of the several routes which have been recommended to public notice as

In this recommendation I fully concur, believing that if it be important in short roads, it is still more indispensably necessary in regard to the longest road ever proposed to be made, that the proper route should first be ascertained by practical and scientific engineers. We know that the buffalo and be wholly impracticable for railroads.

The limit of ascent which can be overcome by railroads

has been ascertained to be one hundred and twenty feet to the mile, and this is a most objectionable grade; but buffaloes and other wild animals, as well as a rider on horseback, including the Indian trapper, have often passed over heights where the grade was not less than one thousand feet to the mile. Indeed the grade of the Cumberland road is in many places over two hundred feet to the mile, which is wholly impracticable for a railroad. I have said this much, not only in tification of the Legislature of my own State, but as my protest against any attempt to commit the Government preely to any route which subsequent developments may prove to be impracticable. I move that they be referred to the Committee on Roads and Canals, and that they be printed for

The motion was agreed to.

PUBLIC LANDS-PUBLIC DEBT-FINANCES-DEFICIT. Pursuant to notice given to that effect, Mr. BENTON asked leave to bring in a bill to accelerate the sales of the public lands for the purpose of paying the public debt, and extinguish-ing the federal title to lands within the new States, and to grant

Mr. B. said the title to his bill was an index to its and gave a general idea of its scope and object; but set being momentous, and himself not of the com-which it might be referred, he deemed it right to mail

"The law's recently enacted giving lands to those who served in the war with Mexico, and at the last session to such as had served in former wars, in addition to grants to States for internal improvements, will undoubtedly supply the market with the greater portion of the lands that will be required for occupation for many years to come. This source of revenue, therefore—small, indeed, comparatively, but still in the ten years preceding 1848 available for an annual average of \$2,993,616.19, (statement V)—should not hereafter be relied upon with any certainty, or to any considerable amount, in esti-

that time. This further point, being omitted by him, I will now entirely driven out of her own market, and is keeping up show myself; and, for that purpose, will have recourse to the estimates of expenditure for the management of the public lands for the ensuing year. These estimates are:

Office of the Commissioner of the General Land

Office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, p. 13 of the printed estimates..... Surveyor's General, and their offices, p. 14....

page 42......170,200 00

Thus, the public lands, while yielding nothing for sixteen ears, will require an expenditure of nearly three quarters of million per annum, out of the public treasury, to defray the expenses of their administration during all that time—an ing in the whole to nearly twelve millions of dollars. The whole expenditure of the Government, then, including the nanagement of the public lands, will fall upon the cus and now let us see what these expenditures are to be. The estimated expenditures, according to the report of the Secretary, are to be \$46,800,000; and as Congress always originates some millions of appropriations over and above the esti-mates, which are always granted in full, the total expendi-ture for the ensuing fiscal year may safely be set down at \$50,000,000. And this enormous sum includes nothing for a sinking fund—nothing for the gradual extinction of the new public debt-nothing to go to the principal of the debt. The interest only is included, and to meet these fifty millions, the sum of forty-five millions are estimated from the customhouses. If these forty-five millions were realized it would still leave a deficit of five millions; but they are not to be counted upon—at least for succeeding years. The Secretary shows that this product from customs is an unusual amount, flowing from exuberant importations, the fruit of temporary c'rcumstances; and he shows further that these temporary circumstances must soon cease, and with that cessation mus come a diminution of imports, and a consequent decline of duties. In all this I concur with the Secretary, and so fully that I adopt his own words in the part of his report which relates to thi point, and make them my own. The Secretary says:

point, and make them my own. The Secretary says:

"We cannot overlook the fact, in our estimates of future revenue, that the last three or four years have been exceptional ones; that we are indebted for our large revenues in part to the famine, the revolutions, and the broken down markets of Europe. The ease with which the low duties under the act of 1846 may be reduced still lower by successful frauds and undervaluations, combined with the causes just stated, have induced a large excess of importation. But the markets of Europe are recovering their tone; the effects of the famine are passing away; our country is filled, it is believed, to excess with foreign goods; and it would be contrary to all reasonable with foreign goods; and it would be contrary to all reasonable expectation to look for a continuance of these large importations."

A continuance of this large income-forty-five millions from the custom houses—is then not to be expected. Inade-quate as it now is by five millions to meet the current expenses of the Government and the mere interest of the public debt, it is soon to be more so, how much no one can now tell, but enough, beyond doubt, to increase largely the deficit which now exists. This deplorable result is faced by the Secretary. He faces the deficit, and shows it to us; but I do not think he faces the remedy, and shows us that. He looks to the customs, and expects to make their income adequate by an alteration of the laws which would increase the duties and scientific engineers. We know that the buffalo and other wild animals march over passes in the mountains where the elevation is many hundred feet to the mile, which would be wholly impracticable for railroads.

The limit of ascent which can be overcome by railroads of his own words. He says:

of his own words. He says:

"This state of things imposes upon Congress the duty of determining whether the laws now existing, with the rates of duties imposed by them on foreign merchandise, will produce the amount necessary to defray the annual ordinary expenditures of the Government, and meet punctually the interest on the public debt. The ability of the country to discharge every obligation upon it, if aided by wise and timely legislation, is unquestionable. It ample provision shall be made for the prompt discharge of annually accruing liabilities, the public faith, as it has been hitherto, will be maintained, and the public credit continued on such a basis as to ensure an advantageons and speedy extinguishment of the public debt.

lie credit continued on such a basis as to ensure an advantageous and speedy extinguishment of the public debt.

"The provisions of the act of July, 1846, have been found
insufficient for the prevention of frauds and undervaluations.
The extent to which they have been carried, and the degree
in which they have been rendered systematic and complete,
have been highly detrimental to the revenue. The Department has long given the subject of these frauds its most carnest
attention, and exhausted all its authority for their prevention
and detection, but they are still of such magnitude and so demoralizing in their effects as to demand the immediate interposition of Congress."

be asfely applied, with home valuations upon all such as eccessarily subject to ad valorem rates.

I. If the principle of specific duties shall not be adopted, he home valuation, instead of the foreign, should then plied to all imports subject to ad valorem duties.

II. If neither of the foregoing changes shall be thought or, then it is deemed highly necessary that the present of duties should be increased on a great variety of articles it will be found could bear such increase with the most effect upon both trade and revenue."

inion that importations will diminish, carrying with it inution of revenue from customs; that the ad valorem course again had to specific duties in all cases in which see applicable. On this latter point I have nothing to as gained from experience. I needed no experience orm me that universal ad valorems were the most une-of duties, and the most fruitful of frauds. I knew that a, and said it always. I condemned them in that abortion a day, the so-called "compromise" of 1932—'3, when bard dogma was first introduced into our statute book

structive quality, which would show his capacity to destroy any fleet, fort, or army which may be beneath it. He also proposes, when he shall have done that, and shall have satisfied both Houses of Congress, and every body who will attend his experiment, that it is entirely practicable and within his control, to take that balloon to the city of St. Louis, and make a voyage from thence to the city of York. At New York he proposes to take in six other passengers who have already volunteered, and a life boat, and proceed to England, where would one shall amount to the fact. I concernment to the fact. I amount to the fact of the same dogma when it was introduced in the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment due of interest on each to the total amount of the proposes of paying old debts by creating new ones, then the total amount of the burden on account of the present national debt, and is then the amount, from the cradle to the tomb of the Capulets, spite of all high laudation. I condemned the same dogma when it was introduced in the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and now, after a brief experiment of the tariff of 1846; and world with his balloon than in any other way; that his experiments have shown that at a certain elevation there is a request—the theoretical; for one of them, that of the lands, will current of air from West to East, in which he can sail with perfect safety, and with more expedition and velocity than by any other mode of conveyance. He desires the opportunity alteration, for sixteen years. This will carry us to about the perfect safety, and with more expedition and velocity than by any other mode of conveyance. He desires the opportunity any other mode of conveyance. He desires the opportunity any other mode of conveyance. He desires the opportunity alteration, for sixteen years. This will carry us to about the end of the time for paying the last item of the public debt. The last payment becomes due in 1868, and sixteen years to come. During all that time the assignees of end of the time for paying the last item of the public debt. The last payment becomes due in 1868, and sixteen years to come. During all that time the assignees of military bounty land warrants will occupy the market; and, the sum of twenty thousand dollars. He thinks that this will bring us to the verge of that time. This results from the public debt. The last payment becomes due in 1868, and sixteen years will bring us to the verge of that time. This results from the public debt. The last payment becomes due in 1868, and sixteen years will be at the expense of keeping up the military bounties of the last session, and at the province of the last session and at the province of the last session and the Government is thrown out of market for sixnow stand the Government is thrown out of market for sixmilitary bounty land warrants will occup the market; and, selling at about 80 ceats per acre, the United States can sell none at \$1.25, and thus will be at the expense of keeping up the last item of the public debt.

The last payment becomes due in 1868, and sixteen years to come. During all that time the assignees of military bounty land warrants will occup the market; and, selling at the province of the last session and at the province of the last session and at the public debt.

The last payment becomes due in 1868, and sixteen years to come. During all that land system for the benefit of private sellers—her own com-petiturs, who received the land as a gift from her, undersell her, and drive her out of market.

evenue, expunged, and become a source of expense instead f profit; and these evils to continue, and become worse, unes there is some ridical change in the mode of selling the

the change must be the acceleration of the sales of the lands. Providence, it yet enjoys a green old age, and a cheering amount of the sunshine of public favor; and when it falls, be this our consolation, that not a fragment of the tree has ever lent a torch to a political incendiary.

The present year closes the first half of the eventful nineteenth century; a portion of the world's duration distinguished by as many great and thrilduration distinguished by as many great and thrilduration distinguished by as many great and thrilduration distinguished by as many great and is keeping up to the date with a good deal into his book, though I have not sale of lands, the sum of \$113,245,896, not anticipated at the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (See superficial content of the date when the revenue law of 1846 was enacted. (S

and accelerate the sale of the public lands by lands after the 30th day of June, 1851, descend by a periodical reduction of twenty-five cents every two years until they fall to twenty-five cents per acre ; after which the lands remain ing unsold two years are to be ceded to the States in which they lie. This is the provision for the general purchaser, but there is a further provision for the actual settlers. For this merito rious class there is a further, and a double provision, calculated to benefit them while promoting the leading idea of accelerated sales. The provision is a combination of the dona-tion and of the pre-emption principle; and assures to every settler on public lands, subject to private entry, a donation of forty acres, to include his settlement, and a pre-emption right in one hundred and twenty acres adjacent, and that always at twenty-five cents in the acre less than the same land is of fered to the general purchaser. Thus, lands which shall have been offered at private sale, and remain unsold on the 30th day of June, 1851, shall thereafter be offered to the general purchaser at one dollar per acre, but to the actual settler at 75 cents per acre, with a donation of forty acres to include his t, and a right of pre-emption in 120 acres at 75 cents; so as to make his whole quantity 168 acres. And so through each successive biennial reduction until the land falls to 25 cents per acre, when the actual settler gets his whole 160 acres virtually as a donation, paying but five cents

per acre for the 120 acres, and receiving the 40 acres as a gift.

This is the plan of the bill, and I believe, if passed into law, it will have the effect desired—that of reviving and ac-celerating the public land sales, and making them available among the ways and means for the payment of the new pub-lic debt. The reduced prices will bring them into competi The reduced prices will bring them into competi tion with the bounty warrants, and the double system of reduction which is proposed—a larger reduction always in favor of the actual settler-will make a competition between the general purchaser and the settler which will ensure a sale of every tract as soon as it falls to its real value. The actual ettler is kept shead of the general purchaser : so of the adjacent landholder. They have a pre-emptive advantage which

will keep them ahead, and prevent speculating monopolies.

The first object of the bill is to pay the public debt: the second, to extinguish the federal title to the lands within the new States. This second object is itself a great one, and con Accelerated sales, while rapidly putting money into the Federal Treasury, will be as rapidly extinguishing the Federal Government as a landholder in the new States: and, te the good work, all the lands remaining unsold at the end of the operation of the bill, are to be ceded to the States in which they lie for public purposes; and where the lands in any State have been sold down to a refuse of three nillions of acres or less in any State, the same shall be ceded Indians, at once; and others in a few years; while the other clauses of the bill would release all the States from Federal wnership of lands within their limits within the period allo ted for the complete operation of the bill—that is to say, within nine years! so that the commencement of the year 1860 should see every new State released from the presence and with the old States in the great essential requisites of States sovereignty—that of having all the lands within its limits sub

ettlement, improvement, and taxation.

I have put forward revenue, and that under the usual idea of getting it by selling land, as the leading object of my bill. Re vived and accelerated sales of public land to bring money into the tressury, is the leading and prominent idea. But the sale of land is not the only mode of producing revenue from public land which the bill contemplates; nor is it with me the favorite, or even the wise way of deriving revenue from the public domain. On that point I am a convert, and have been for a quarter of a century, to the policy of the British statesman Edmund Burke, as declared in his speech in the House of Commons on the subject of disposing of the crown lands. He cared little for sales—little for the amount of money which the lands would bring at market, and even deprecate high prices, and objected to screwing up bidders to large sum by the force of competition. He preferred (and he said i the subject went together) that the money should be saved to improve the land rather than laid out in its purchase; and from that improvement and cultivation, he said, came the really beneficial and desirable revenue—that which came through the course of circulation, and through the politica secretions of the State. This is what he said:

"I. A change in the present ad valorem system, which should impose specific duties upon all articles to which such duties swered whenever any property is transferred from hand

which are not fit for that property to those that are. The buyer and the seller must mutually profit by such a bargain; and, what rarely happens in matters of revenue, the relief of the subject will go hand-in-hand with the profit of the exchequer. The revenue to be derived from the sale of the forest lands will not be so considerable as many have imagined; and I conceive it would be unwise to screw it up to the utmost, or even to soffer bidders to enhance, according to their eagerness, the purchase of objects wherein the expense of that purchase may weaken the capital to be employed in their cultivation. The principal revenue which I propose to draw from these uncultivated wastes, is to spring from the improvement and population of the kingdom, events infinitely more advantageous to the revenues of the crown than the rents of the best landed estates which it can hold. It is thus I would dispose of the unprofitable landed estates of the crown: throw them into the mass of private property: by which they will come, through the course of circulation, and through the political secretions of the State, into well-regulated revenue."

Mr. President, I quoted this passage from Burke twenty-

Mr. President, I quoted this passage from Burke twenty-four years ago in this chamber, deeply convinced of its pro-found wisdom at that time. I have had occasion to think of found wisdom at that time. I have had occasion to think of it often since, and never more earnestly than at present. I have seen the sales of our public lands lingering and languishing, involving a great expense in their administration, a great Federal influence in the new States, great injury in divers ways in these States; and after all producing so little revenue that it requires elaborate tables to be constructed, and some large items of their constructed duce nothing! costing \$700,000 a year for their administration—keeping up an army of idle officers—depriving the new tion—keeping up an army of idle officers—depriving the new States both of their taxes and the five per centum in lieu of them—and keeping large portions of the State out of the hands of cultivators. In the mean time I have seen the culwhat Mr. Burke calls the political secretions of the State—bringing in a large, an increasing, and a perennial stream of revenue. All the custom house revenue comes from that source. The one hundred millions of agricultural products which go abroad bring back upwards of an hundred millions of foreign goods, which pay the duties which fill—which have filled, are filling, and will fill—the treasury. The forty-five millions now counted upon by the Secretary of the Treasury, as the sole resource of the Treasury, all comes from that source. Cultivation and improvement of the country, then, and not the sale of land, is the source of revenue; and to that I have mainly looked in the plan I have submitted. I have kept it in view, in every part of the plan—in the reduced prices—in the preference to actual settlers—in the donations to settlers—and in the cession of the unsold and unsaleable lands settlers—and in the cession of the date.

I am an enemy to a public date and had the satisfaction to see a large one extinguished. debt, and had the satisfaction to see a large one extinguished. We see another one created: I impute no blame about it: but I want to see it extinguished. I see no such chance at present. As things now stand we cannot even pay the inexchequer bills, called by us treasury notes, by which a nation is so easily slided into debt, and by which Sir Robert Walpole laid the foundation of the present British debt. I eschew his example, and his resource, and go for facing and meeting our new public debt at once. Rapid sales of the public lands will do part : economy and retrenchment must do the rest.

Mr. B. then asked leave to bring in his bill.

A BILL to accelerate the sale of the public lands and pay the public debt; to extinguish the Federal title to lands within the new States, secure homes to actual settlers, and to cede the unsaleable and refuse lands to the States in which they

dollar per acre until the 30th day of June, 1853; and thereafter all remaining unsold at that price shall be offered at seventy-five cents per acre, until the 30th day of June, 1855; and thereafter all remaining then unsold shall be offered at fifty cents per acre until the 30th day of June, 1857; and thereafter all such land still remaining unsold shall be offered at twenty-five cents per acre until the 30th day of June, 1859. Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That every head of a familie widow or simple man over the acre of eighten years. every such person so settled on the 30th day of June, 1853, on public land then offered at seventy-five cents per acre, shall in like manner be entitled to a like donation, and to a like south in like manner be entitled to a like doubtlow, and over such person so settled on the 30th day of June, 1855, shall be entitled to a pre-emption at five cents per acre. And where two or more persons shall be settled on contiguous forty-acre tracts, then the pre-emptive right of each may be satisfied out of the nearest vacant land; and all questions between actual settlers shall be decided immediately and equitably by the register

and receiver. Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That all persons owning lands to which the public lands offered at graduated prices in the first section of this bill shall be adjoining, and which shall not be entered by an actual settler within the respective thirty days limited for his pre-emptive right, such person shall be entitled for thirty days after the expiration of such settlement pre-emptive right to purchase the same to the extent of one hundred and sixty acres at the price fixed in the said first section of this act; and if said public land should adjoin two or more owners, each of which should apply for the same, then the adjacent land shall be divided equally between them, and the quantity of one bundred and sixty acres made up to each, if required, out of any contiguous public land, free from a setlement pre-emptive right.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That in all cases in which

See. 4. And be it further enacted, That in all cases in which the public lands in any State shall have been, or may hereafter be reduced to less than three millions of acres, the same shall be granted to the State in which it lies; and all the public lands which shall have been offered at the graduated prices established in the first section of this bill, and which shall remain unsold on the 30th day of June, 1859, shall be ceded to the State in which they lie.

Leave was granted, and the bill was read a first and second time by its title, and referred to the Committee on the

AUSTRIA AND THE HUNGARIANS.

A message was received from the President of the United States by Mr. M. P. FILLMORE, his private Secretary, dated the 30th instant, communicating, in reply to a resolutween our Government and Austria. The correspo was read, and is as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 30, 1850.

To the President of the United States: The Secretary of State, to whom has been referred the resolution of the Senate of the 26th instant, requesting the President "to communicate to the Senate, if not incompatible with the public interest, copies of any correspondence, if any has taken place, between the Department of State and the Austrian Charge d'Affaires, respecting the appointmen or proceedings of the agent sent out to examine and report upon the condition and prospects of the Hungarian people, during their recent struggle for independence," has the honor to lay before the President a copy of the correspondence called

Respectfully submitted. DANIEL WEBSTER.

Chevalier J. G. Hulsemann to Secretary of State. [Translation.] WASHINGTON, SEPTEMBER 30, 18

The undersigned, Charge d'Affaires of his Majesty the Em eror of Austria, has been instructed to make the following ommunication to the Secretary of State :

As soon as the Imperial Government became aware of the fact that a United States agent had been dispatched to Vienna, with orders to watch for a favorable moment to recognise the Hungarian Republic, and to conclude a treaty ommerce with the same, the undersigned was directed to address some confidential but pressing representations to the Cabinet of Washington against that proceeding, which is so much at variance with those principles of international law so scrupulously adhered to by Austria at all times, and under all circumstances, towards the United States. In fact, how all circumstances, towards the United is it possible to reconcile such a mission with the principle is it possible to reconcile such a mission with the United of non-intervention, so formally announced by the States as the basis of American policy, and which had just been sanctioned with so much solemnity by the President, in his inaugural address of March 5, 1849? Was it in return friendship and confidence which Austria had never ceased to manifest towards them, that the United States be assume the responsibility of sending Mr. Dudley Mann on such an errand, should, independent of considerations of propriety, have borne in mind that they were exposing their emisary to be treated as a spy. It is to be regretted that the American Government was not better informed as to the actheir wishes to that effect ? Those who did not hesitate to

safely applied, with home valuations upon all such as | which are not fit for that property to those that are. The | ual resources of Austria, and her historical perseverance in

which Mr. Mann's instructions were language was offensive to correct idea of their scope. This language was offensive to the Imperial Cabinet, for it designates the Austrian Government of the Computer of th ment as an iron rule, and represents the rebel chief Kossuth as an illustrious man; while improper expressions are introduced in regard to Russia, the intimate and faithful ally of thought proper to revive the whole subject by communicating to the Senate, in his message of the 18th of last March, the in ment under the necessity of entering a formal protest, through its official representative, against the proceedings of the American Government, lest that Government should construe our silence into approbation, or toleration even, of the principl which appear to have guided its action and the means it h

adopted.

In view of all these circumstances, the undersigned has been instructed to declare that the Imperial Government totally disapproves, and will always continue to disapprove of those proceedings, so offensive to the laws of propriety; and that it protests against all interference in the internal affairs of its Government. Having thus fulfilled his duty, the undersigned considers it a fortunate circumstance that he has it in his power to assure the Secretary of State that the Imperial Goverument is disposed to cultivate relations of friendship and good understanding with the United States, relations which may have been momentarily weakened, but which could not again be seriously disturbed without placing the cardinal in-

terests of the two countries in jeopardy.

The instructions for addressing this communication to Mr.
Clayton reached Washington at the time of General Taylor's death. In compliance with the requisitions of propriety, the undersigned deemed it his duty to defer the task until the new administration had been completely organized; a delay which he now rejoices at, as it has given him the opportunity of ascertaining from the new President himself, on the occasion of the reception of the diplomatic corps, that the fundamental policy of the United States, so frequently proclaimed, would guide the relations of the American Government with the other Powers. Even if the Government of the United States were to think it proper to take an indirect part in the political movements of Europe, American policy would be exposed to acts of retaliation, and to certain inconveniences, which could not fail to affect the commerce and the industry of the two hemispheres. All countries are obliged, at some period or other, to struggle against internal difficulties; all forms of government are exposed to such disagreeable episodes; the United States have had some experience in this very recently. Civil war is a possible occurrence every where, and the encouragement which is given to the spirit of insurrection and of disorder most frequently falls back upon those who seek to aid it in its developments, in spite of justice and wise policy.

The undersigned avails himself of this occasion to renew to the Secretary of State the assurance of his distinguished con-

To the Hon. DANIEL WEBSTER, Secretary of State of the United States.

Secretary of State to Mr. Hulsemann.

DEPARTMENT OF OT WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 21, 1850.

The undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States had the honor to receive, some time ago, the note of Mr. Hulsemann, Chargé d'Affaires of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, of the 30th September. Causes, not arising from any want of personal regard for Mr. Hulsemann, or of proper respect for his Government, have delayed an answer until the present moment. Having submitted Mr. Hulsemann's letter to the President, the undersigned is now directed by him to return the following reply:

The objects of Mr. Hulsemann's note are, first, to protest,

by order of his Government, against the steps taken by the late President of the United States to ascertain the progress and probable result of the revolutionary movements in Hungary; and, secondly, to complain of some expressions in the Mann, a confidential agent of the United States, as comm

The principal ground of protest is founded on the idea, or in the allegation, that the Government of the United States, by the mission of Mr. Mann, and his instructions, has interfered in the domestic affairs of Austria, in a manner unjust sage was a communication made by him to the Senate, transmitting a correspondence between the Executive Government and a confidential agent of its own. This would seem to be itself a domestic transaction, a mere instance of intercourse between the President and the Senate, in the manner which usual and indispensable in communications between the lifferent branches of the Government. It was not addressed either to Austria or Hungary; nor was it any public mani-festo, to which any foreign State was called on to reply. It was an account of its transactions communicated by the Executive Government to the Senate, at the request of that body; made public, indeed, but made public only because such is the common and usual course of proceeding; and it may be regarded as somewhat strange, therefore, that the Austrian Cabinet did not perceive that, by the instructions given to Mr. Hulsemann, it was itself interfering with the domestic concerns of a foreign State, the very thing which is the ground of its complaint against the United States.

This Department has, on former occasions, informed the Ministers of Foreign Powers that a communication from the Ministers of President to either House of Congress is regarded as a do-mestic communication, of which, ordinarily, no foreign State mestic communication, of which, ordinarily, no foreign State has cognizance; and, in more recent instances, the great inconvenience of making such communications subjects of diplomatic correspondence and discussion has been fully shown. If it had been the pleasure of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, during the struggles in Hungary, to have admonished the Provisional Government or the people of that country against involving themselves in disaster, by following the evil and dangerous example of the United States of America in making efforts for the establishment of independent Government. and dangerous example of the childed States of America in making efforts for the establishment of independent Governments, such an admonition from that Sovereign to his Hungarian subjects would not have originated here a diplomatic correspondence. The President might, perhaps, on this ground, have declined to direct any particular reply to Mr. Hulsemann's note; but, out of proper respect for the Austrian Government, it has been thought better to answer that note at length; and the more especially as the occasion is not unfavorable for the expression of the general sentiments of the Government of the United States upon the topics which that note discusses.

A leading subject in Mr. Hulsemann's note is that of the

of the undersigned, in which Mr. Clayton, by direction of the President, informed Mr. Hulsemann "that Mr. Mann's mission had no other object in view than to obtain reliable in-formation as to the true state of affairs in Hungary, by personal observation." Mr. Hulsemann remarks that "this ex-planation can hardly be admitted, for it says very little as to the cause of the anxiety which was felt to ascertain the chances of the revolutionists." As this, however, is the only purpose which can with any appearance of truth be attributed to the agency; as nothing whatever is alleged by Mr. Hulse-mann to have been either done or said by the agent inconsistent with such an object, the undersigned conceives that Mr. Clayton's explanation ought to be deemed not only admissible, but quite satisfactory. Mr. Hulsemann states, in the course of his note, that his instructions to address his present communication to Mr. Clayton reached Washington about the time of the lamented death of the late President, and that he delayed from a sense of propriety the execution of his task until the new Administration should be fully organized: "a delay which he now rejoices at, as it has give